

MINUTES

MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 56th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

JOINT APPROPRIATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE ON LONG-RANGE PLANNING

Call to Order: By **CHAIRMAN ERNEST BERGSAGEL**, on January 13, 1999
at 8:00 A.M., in Room 317 Capitol.

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Rep. Ernest Bergsagel, Chairman (R)
Sen. Tom A. Beck, Vice Chairman (R)
Sen. J.D. Lynch (D)
Rep. Matt McCann (D)
Rep. Tom Zook (R)

Members Excused: Sen. Chuck Swysgood (R)

Members Absent: None.

Staff Present: Cassandra Drynan, Committee Secretary
Jane Hamman, OBPP
Pam Joehler, Legislative Branch

Please Note: These are summary minutes. Testimony and
discussion are paraphrased and condensed.

Committee Business Summary:

Hearing(s) & Date(s) Posted: **House Bill 11** - Treasure State
Endowment Program, 1/13/1999

Executive Action: None

HEARING ON HOUSE BILL 11 - TREASURE STATE ENDOWMENT PROGRAM

Ms. Jane Hamman, OBPP, explained **EXHIBIT(jlh09a01)**, concerning
the Coal Tax Trust, and how the TSEP fund was leveling off.

TSEP PROJECT NO. 33 - ESSEX WATER & SEWER DIST.

Mr. Jim Edgcomb, reviewed the water project and the department's recommendations.

Mr. John Beer, Secretary Treasurer of the Essex Water and Sewer District, gave a short presentation of the project. Questions were asked. **EXHIBIT(jlh09a02)**

{Tape : 1; Side : A; Approx. Time Counter : 4.4 - 8.4}

Mr. Jim Edgcomb, Manager of the TSEP program, spoke about CI-75 and how it might affect these communities.

Discussion: Discussion concerning the administrative order from the State of Montana, on the Essex Water and Sewer District, to complete their project by September 1999.

{Tape : 1; Side : A; Approx. Time Counter : 8.4 - 12.9}

Ms. Jane Hamman asked if businesses were counted as households when evaluating a district. **Mr. Jim Edgcomb** responded that businesses were not counted as households and not taken into account when evaluating residential user rates.

{Tape : 1; Side : A; Approx. Time Counter : 12.9 - 14.7}

TSEP PROJECT NO. 30 - CITY OF HARLEM

Mr. Nick Rich, with the TSEP program, reviewed the water project and the department's recommendations.

{Tape : 1; Side : A; Approx. Time Counter : 14.7 - 16.2}

Mr. Dick King, with Bear Paw Development Corporation, gave a short presentation and mentioned that they may have some other alternatives. He then stated that a one year application cycle instead of a two year cycle was desirable.

{Tape : 1; Side : A; Approx. Time Counter : 16.3 - 20.1}

REP. MCCANN commented that perhaps a contingency fund could be set aside for emergency projects.

{Tape : 1; Side : A; Approx. Time Counter : 20.1 - 21.7}

CHAIRMAN BERGSAGEL stated that he was opposed to an annual cycle because the larger communities would then eat up the funds as small towns would not be able to hire full time grant writers and would lose out on the chance to apply for grants.

{Tape : 1; Side : A; Approx. Time Counter : 21.7 - 23.8}

TSEP PROJECT NO. 18 - CITY OF HAVRE

Ms. Nancy Guccione, with the TSEP program, reviewed the water project and the department's recommendation.

Mr. Dick King, representing the city of Havre, gave a short presentation. Questions were asked. Discussion followed.
{Tape : 1; Side : A; Approx. Time Counter : 23.8 - 1:B:4.8}

TSEP PROJECT NO. 3 - HIGHWOOD WATER & SEWER DIST.

Mr. Dave Cole, Bureau Chief of the Community Development Bureau at Commerce, reviewed the water project and the department's recommendations.

{Tape : 1; Side : B; Approx. Time Counter : 4.8 - 7.4}

Mr. Joe Furba, representing Highwood, gave an overview of the towns water system problems. Questions were asked.

{Tape : 1; Side : B; Approx. Time Counter : 7.4 - 11.2}

TSEP PROJECT NO. 24 - CITY OF RED LODGE

Ms. Nancy Guccione reviewed the waste water project and the department's recommendations.

{Tape : 1; Side : B; Approx. Time Counter : 11.2 - 12.5}

Mr. Jason Rittal, with Double Tree Incorporated, gave a short presentation.

{Tape : 1; Side : B; Approx. Time Counter : 12.5 - 17.8}

Mr. Robert Siemens, senior project manager for MSE engineering, gave a technical presentation.

Mr. Jim Edgcomb stated that funds from projects that drop out would roll down to the next projects.

{Tape : 1; Side : B; Approx. Time Counter : 17.8 - 23.3}

Ms. Jane Hamman requested more discussion on the City of Red Lodge's ammonia problem.

{Tape : 1; Side : B; Approx. Time Counter : 23.3 - 25}

Discussion: Discussion and questions concerning cutoff dates.

{Tape : 1; Side : B; Approx. Time Counter : 25 - 30}

TSEP PROJECT NO. 5 - CITY OF THOMPSON FALLS

Mr. Nick Rich reviewed the water project and the department's recommendations.

{Tape : 1; Side : B; Approx. Time Counter : 30 - 31.8}

Kathrine Holland, Grant Writer & Administrator for Thompson Falls, gave a short presentation. Questions were asked.

{Tape : 1; Side : B; Approx. Time Counter : 31.9 - 2:A:4.9}

Mr. Jim Coleman, with J & B Engineers, gave a technical presentation **EXHIBIT(jlh09a03)**. Questions were asked.

{Tape : 2; Side : A; Approx. Time Counter : 4.9 - 15.6}

REP. PAUL CLARK, HD 72, testified on behalf of the project.

{Tape : 2; Side : A; Approx. Time Counter : 17.1 - 19}

TSEP PROJECT NO. 36 - CITY OF GREAT FALLS

Mr. Jim Edgcomb reviewed the water project and the department's recommendation.

{Tape : 2; Side : A; Approx. Time Counter : 19.1 - 20.9}

Mr. Dave Dobbs, City Engineer of Great Falls, gave a short presentation. Questions were asked.

Mr Jim Young, with the City Engineer's Office, answered questions.

{Tape : 2; Side : A; Approx. Time Counter : 20.9 - 25.4}

TSEP PROJECT NO. 23 - CITY OF HELENA

Ms. Nancy Guccione reviewed the water project and the department's recommendations.

{Tape : 2; Side : A; Approx. Time Counter : 25.5 - 27.1}

Mr. Kim Milburn, Public Works Director for the city of Helena, gave a short presentation **EXHIBIT(jlh09a04)**. Questions were asked.

{Tape : 2; Side : A; Approx. Time Counter : 27.1 - 2:B:5.6}

REP. HAL HARPER testified on behalf of the Helena Water Monitoring System, which will be heard another day.

{Tape : 2; Side : B; Approx. Time Counter : 5.6 - 8.6}

TSEP PROJECT NO. 6 - TOWN OF PHILIPSBURG

Mr. Dave Cole reviewed the well water project and the department's recommendations.

{Tape : 2; Side : B; Approx. Time Counter : 11.1}

Mr. Dick Hoehne, Public Works Director for Philipsburg, gave a short presentation **EXHIBIT(jlh09a05)**. Questions were asked. Discussion followed.

{Tape : 2; Side : B; Approx. Time Counter : 11.1 - 17.6}

Mr. Gary Swanson, with MSEH-CAM engineering firm, gave a technical presentation.

{Tape : 2; Side : B; Approx. Time Counter : 17.6 - 20}

SEN. LYNCH stated that **SEN. BEA MCCARTHY** wanted to go on the record in support of the project.

Discussion: Discussion and questions concerning a test well, pipe length and the project with the DNRC.

{Tape : 2; Side : B; Approx. Time Counter : 20 - 27.2}

TSEP PROJECT NO. 34 - STILLWATER COUNTY SOLID WASTE DIST.

Ms. Nancy Guccione reviewed the solid waste project and the department's recommendations.

{Tape : 2; Side : B; Approx. Time Counter : 27.2 - 28.5}

Mr. Harold Blattie, Stillwater County Commissioner, stated that the project was not reviewed fairly and asked for the reconsideration of the committee. **EXHIBIT(jlh09a06)**

{Tape : 2; Side : B; Approx. Time Counter : 28.5 -3:A:8.2}

Mr. Tom Kaiserski, representing Stillwater County, testified on behalf of the project **EXHIBIT(jlh09a07)**.

{Tape : 3; Side : A; Approx. Time Counter : 8.2 - 9.7}

Ms. LouAnn Atkinson, member of the Board of Trustees, testified on behalf of the project.

{Tape : 3; Side : A; Approx. Time Counter : 9.7 - 10.9}

SEN. LYNCH asked what the biggest mistake was, that the reviewer made, which hurt the ranking of the project. Discussion followed.

{Tape : 3; Side : A; Approx. Time Counter : 10.9 - 15}

Mr. Jim Edgcomb answered questions concerning points scored.

{Tape : 3; Side : A; Approx. Time Counter : 15.2 - 17.1}

CHAIRMAN BERGSAGEL asked if this project warranted a review. **Mr. Jim Edgcomb** wasn't sure based on the information he had. Questions were asked concerning target rates. Discussion followed.

{Tape : 3; Side : A; Approx. Time Counter : 17.1 - 23.5}

CHAIRMAN BERGSAGEL asked that TSEP review the project.

{Tape : 3; Side : A; Approx. Time Counter : 23.6 - 24.2}

TSEP PROJECT NO. 7 - TOWN OF EKALAKA

Mr. Nick Rich reviewed the waste water project and the department's recommendations.

{Tape : 3; Side : A; Approx. Time Counter : 24.3 - 25.6}

Mr. Bob Fisher requested a joint TSEP/DNRC hearing for the Town of Ekalaka. Discussion followed.

{Tape : 3; Side : A; Approx. Time Counter : 25.6 - 28.4}

REP. MARIAN W. HANSON gave a short presentation on behalf of the Town of Ekalaka's TSEP & DNRC projects **EXHIBIT(jlh09a08)**.

{Tape : 3; Side : A; Approx. Time Counter : 28.4 - 31.2}

Questions/Discussion: Questions and discussion concerning water and sewer rates.

{Tape : 3; Side : B; Approx. Time Counter : 0.3 - 4.3}

CHAIRMAN BERGSAGEL stated that **SEN. RIC HOLDEN** wished to go on record in support of the project.

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 12:00 P.M.

REP. ERNEST BERGSAGEL, Chairman

CASSANDRA DRYNAN, Secretary

EB/CD

EXHIBIT (j1h09aad)